

McCarran Papers

Singleton

17

QUEST.	REF. ARCHIVES
LOC.	2324
BOX	12.1/53
FILE	

Singleton

Singleton, George = Nancy
bur^d 9.23.1789

—→ John³ bp 5.12.1789³¹

U. S. list

George. Thurlow. G. G. Capt. R. R. N. Y. Stamped Book.
P. 1786.

Long Chain & Lintons - 10

L. B. O.

George Capt. 1789 praying to be put on equal footing
with offs. of 84th.

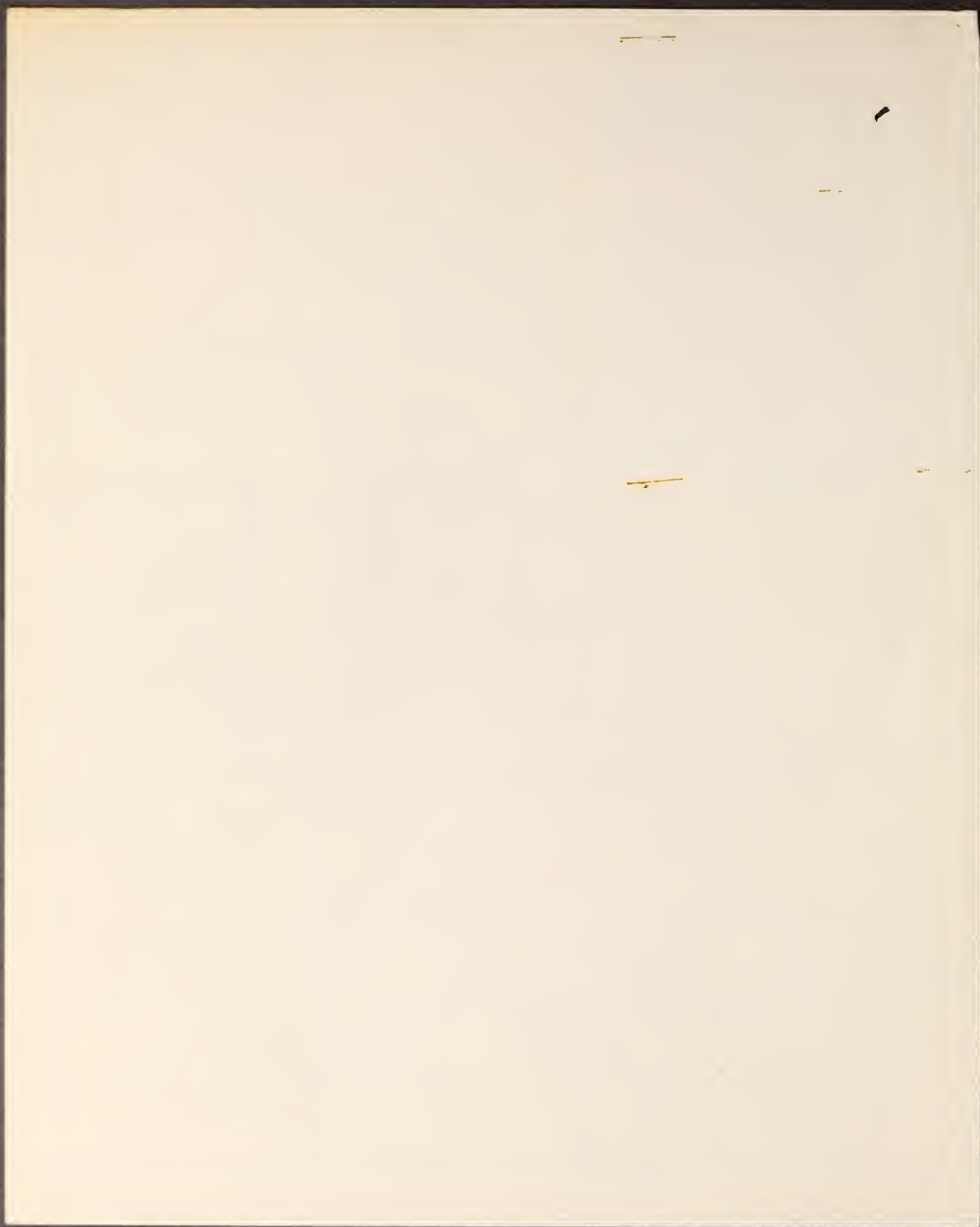
- " 6.10.97 Alexander Chisholm, curator to the estate
of the late Capt. Geo. Singleton. Praying that he may
be permitted to locate for the benefit of the heirs
the remainder of Capt. Singleton's mil. lds. The
heir a heir of Capt. Singleton recommended for
2368 acc. to make up his mil. lds.
- " 1798 lot 5 conc 1. Fredericksburg described for him
under Gen. Haldimand's certificate.
- " 1798 lot 5 conc 1 Thurlow described for him
under Mr. Collins' certificate.
- " 1798 part lot 14 conc. 2 Fredericksburg described for
him under Gen. Haldimand's certificate.

John 4.9.98 Praying for lds as son of U. S. when he comes
of age his application will be attended to.

Muster Roll Yp 3 Fredericksburg 6 Oct 1784

Capt. G. 1

2 R R N Y



Captain George Singleton

1

P. 217 St. Leger's Expedition 1777. In addition to the officers already named, Lieut. George Singleton of Johnson's regiment had been wounded and taken prisoner in the sortie (Oriskany?)

P. 218 Lieut. Singleton ~~of~~ my regiment who was taken at Fort Stanwix in 1777, is very desirous of being exchanged for a Rebel Lieutenant - now at Quebec, and as he is a Good and a Brave Officer, I wish it could take place." (Letter to Haldimand).

P. 282. 1782 "Capt. Brant set off the 5th Instant (July) with the Light Infantry Company of the Regiment under my command and 460 Indians for the Mohawk River (Ross' letter)"

The Journal of Captain George Singleton, who commanded the party of soldiers that accompanied Brant on this expedition, was forwarded and has been preserved. He had long been a prisoner of war and was well acquainted with the valley. After the conclusion of the war he became one of the first settlers of the present Township of Fredricksburg, where he died in 1789. This journal is considered ~~very~~ of sufficient interest to be printed here for the first time.

"On the 5th of July in the Evening left Oswego with forty three men of the Company including Officers three Volunteers and Capt. Brant with four hundred and sixty Indians.

He 9th detached thirteen Indians to the Country in order to get a prisoner to obtain Intelligence.

Wednesday 10th discovered several tracks which we supposed to be a Scout of the Enemies Onida Indians.

Saturday 13th, When we got to Fort Stanwix, Capt. Brant

Captain George Singleton
(Cont'd) K. R. R. N. Y.

2

Proposed to strike into the woods and by that means get to the Settlement without being discovered, but the Indians complained of the want of Moccasins, and absolutely refused to go by that Route, on this account we therefore were under the necessity of following the high Road not without great risk of being discovered, of this Capt. Brant desired I would make a memorandum.

"Sunday the 14th at about 4 in the afternoon the Scout which was dispatched from Fish Creek on the 9th joined us with 2 Prisoners, they informed us that they had discovered many fresh tracks from which we judged that the country was alarmed and had got Intelligence of our intentions, therefore thought it necessary to set out from there as Quick as possible which we accordingly did and got some little distance above Fort Deaton (Dayton) about 11 o'clock that night where we remained till an hour before day, it was surprising to see so many Indians together without any one of them attempting to use the Prisoners ill, but they adhered to the promise they had made at Oswego.

"Monday the 15th, we set out and march'd directly to Fort Herkeman (Herkimer) where we arrived about 4 o'clock and surrounded the Fort in every Quarter and in such a manner as to avoid a discovery from the Garrison. In this situation we detached a small Party of about twenty men with orders to go as close to the Fort as possible thinking by this means to decoy the Garrison to rally out, as well as to collect as many of

Captain George Singleton

(cont'd) K. R. R. N. Y.

3

The battle which was round the Fort as possible, this succeeded in some measure about forty of the Enemy having ventur'd out of the Fort under cover of their Cannon to a plain some little distance we immediately began a movement from the Main Body to cut off their Retreat which tho' done in as secret a manner as the nature of the Ground would admit of had reason to think they discovered us, as soon after they went back with the utmost precipitation before it was possible for us with the greatest exertions to prevent them. Finding this we kept up a constant fire on the Fort until we had got into our possession a number of Cattle and some Horses, and we killed about 8 or 9 of the Enemy about the Fort, amongst which there was one Onida Rebel Indian. At 12 o'clock finding the Enemy would not venture out we proceeded to Fort-Denton which we attacked much in the same manner as the former, but with no Success they having collected all their Cattle and drove them into the Fort upon hearing the firing at Fort Harkeman, both the Forts fired upwards of fifty Cannon shots at us and luckily not a man of the party was hurt, we left that place about 4 o'clock and marched to German Town where we had sent our cattle — Some of the Indians then form'd themselves into small parties finding they were deficient in Prisoners exacted by bells from their different Tribes and returned with Capt. Brant and Capt. John to the Country. I did not think it my duty to interfere with them nor consistent with my orders to make myself a party to such enterprises. When I arrived at German Town found the Indians were bent

Captain George Singleton

4

(cont'd) K. R. R. N. Y.

Upon making a property of the whole of the Cattle without paying any attention to my men and it was with great difficulty with the assistance of Capt. Brant that I got twenty five head (out of two hundred and twenty four) which I brought to this place (Onesago), with the Troops all in good health and Spirits without the smallest accident accompanied with a few Indians. All the rest of the Cattle were drove off to Niagara in spite of every argument to the contrary.

Captain Brant's conduct on every occasion for Gallantry, Generosity, and Humanity exceeds description and his management of the Indians truly conspicuous, no sooner had he left me than I felt myself involved in difficulties, they made an alarm on purpose to make us abandon our cattle, but we judged it to be false and disappointed them.

2nd Battalion, K. R. R. N. Y.

Rank	Name	Place of Nativity	Length of Service	Former situation and remarks.
Capt.	Geo. Singleton*	Ireland	8 years	Formerly merchant.

*note: Justice of the Peace

P. 218 (May 1778)

He (Haldimand) would be willing to make an exchange for Lieut. Singleton as soon as Sir Henry Clinton's approval could be obtained.

... ..

... ..

The

... ..

... ..

...
...
...

... ..

(... ..)

... ..

SINGLETON

SINGLETON

Canniff's History of the Settlement of Upper Canada

- 1 "Singleton -- a lieutenant in the 'Royal Greens,' was wounded in 1777, during the investment of Fort Stanwix." Probably Captain Singleton, who settled in Thurlow, Upper Canada, was the same person.

- 2 In the Map of Thurlow 1787, Capt Singleton held lots 5 + 6 1st Conc. The ~~first lot~~ ~~later held by~~ Samuel Sherwood, settled on lot 9

Old Fort Johnson, by W. May Reid, 1906

p. 91 Diary of a soldier of Colonel Gansevoort's regiment, 1777.

August 6th (prior to Battle of Oriskany)

A party of Americans on way to Oriskany "having marched half a mile, they came upon an encampment of the enemy which they totally routed, and plundered them of as much baggage as the soldiers could carry. Their loss is supposed to be between fifteen and twenty killed. The number of wounded, who got off, is unknown. They took four prisoners, three of whom were wounded, and Mr. Singleton of Montreal, who says he is a lieutenant, without the loss of one man killed or wounded."

Was this the party which killed and scalped two girls on July 27th?



Dunkirk Landed Gentoo

Singleton

VIII 319-2 359-1 432-2 511-1 535-2 421-2



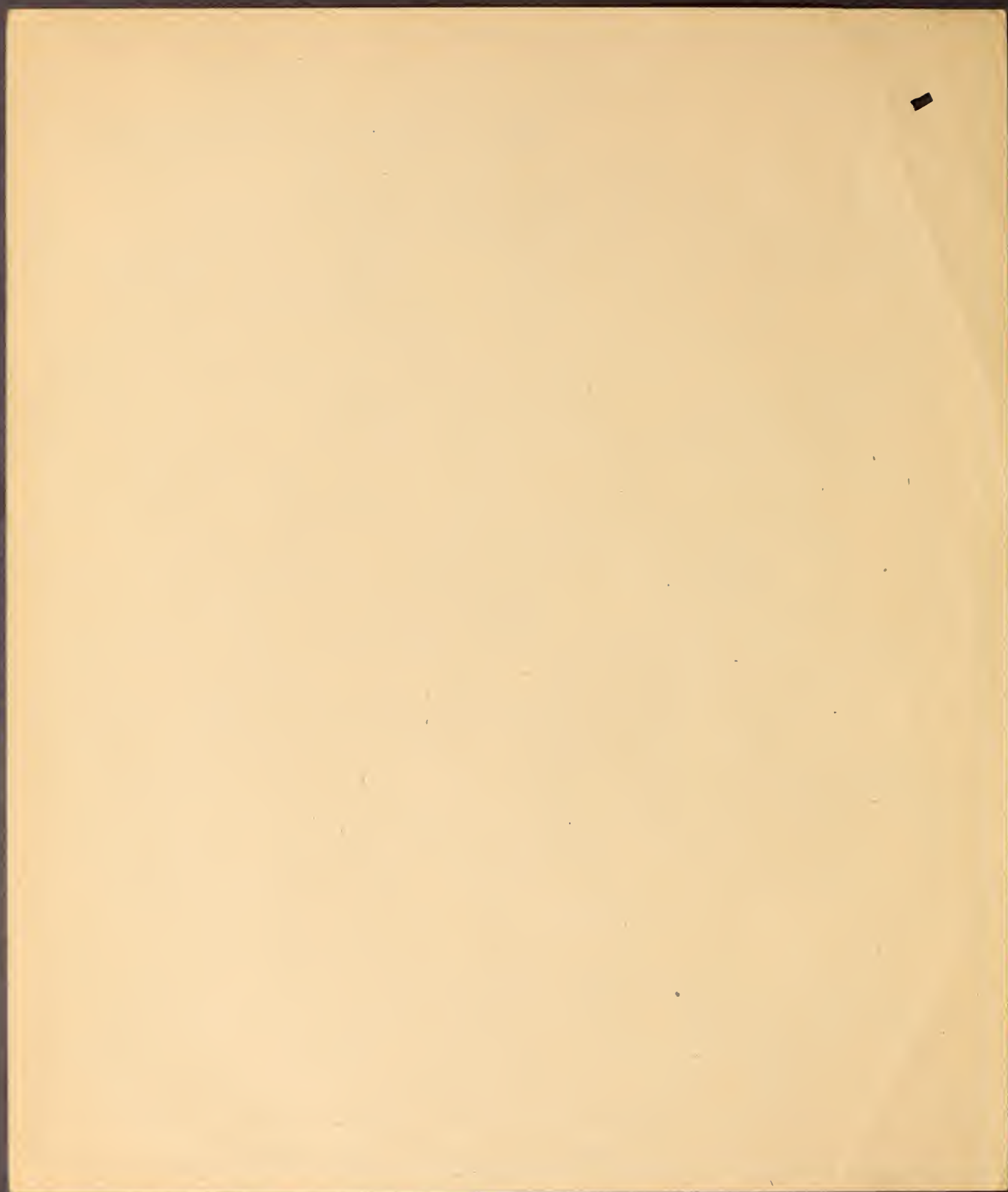
Hist of Montreal, & Lower Town to Gen.

Langdon

Vol II

The Quebec Gazette Thurs Oct 4, 1775

George Langdon signed with others as being
resolved to oppose the enemy in his attack on
Quebec. - Dated at Montreal the second day of
October 1775.



173 Bridge Street East,
Belleville, Ontario,
October 19, 1974.

Dear Dr. Burleigh:

I am preparing an article for the Dictionary of Canadian Biography on Captain George Singleton. Your comments on this draft would be much appreciated.

I am especially interested to learn your source for the statement to the DCB that Singleton took part in the siege of Quebec, 1775-76.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Gerry Boyce

Gerald E. Boyce.



Bath, Ont., 24 Oct., 1974

Mr, Gerald E. Boyce,
173 Bridge Street East,
Belleville, Ont.

Dear Mr. Boyce:

I have your letter of 19th inst., relative to your article for the Dictionary of Canadian Biography on Capt. George Singleton.

I find no particular fault with the article. I have little on this man, as he resided a bit out of my particular territory. So, I shall say little more than to supply what you desire.

I am particularly interested regarding what you say about my source for the statement to the DCB that Singleton took part in the siege of Quebec, 1775-6. I have no recollection to having made any such statement to them on this matter. Will you please explain just what is meant. I say this, as I have had no correspondence with DCB since three articles which I wrote for vol. one.

However, the statement in question can be found in

History of the Military & Naval Forces in Canada, vol. 11.

The Quebec Gazette, Thursday, Oct. 5, 1775.

George Singleton signed with others as being resolved to oppose the enemy in his attack on Quebec --- dated at Montreal the second day of October, 1775.

Now I have a query. I note among the Bibliography that you refer to items from the Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa, to

H.II-4 Samuel Sherwood's Day Book.

What is this? I wonder if it is a copy which I sent to the Archives many years ago? My copy I copied from the original book, which I borrowed in Brighton at that time. My interest in it is that I have been playing with the idea of publishing it in the near future. Your comments would be appreciated.

Sincerely,



6 Nov., 1974.

Mr. Gerald E. Boyce,
173 Bridge Street,
Belleville, Ont.

Dear Mr. Boyce:

I am a bit worried in not having an answer from you re my query of a fortnight ago on your source of information about Sherwood's Day Book.

Feeling that I may have been remiss in not returning your item on Capt. George Singleton. So, this I am doing at this time and accompanying this letter. My apologies.

Now that I have that off my mind, may I please refer again to my query about Sherwood's Day Book. I have an original copy, and I have been toying with the idea of publishing it in a booklet for distribution to all interested persons. As this account book belongs to our earliest merchant on the Bay of Quinte, I feel that it would be well worth while as additional item of vital local history.

So, please send me your comments on my proposed project, and thus put me out of my misery.

Have you any idea where the original copy would be at this time? When I last saw it, it was in Prohgenton.

Your sincere queriest,



II. PRINTED PRIMRAY SOURCES

ONTARIO BUREAU OF ARCHIVES, Fourteenth Report. Toronto, 1917.
[Records of the Court of Common Pleas for the
Mecklenburg District]

ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Papers and Records, v. L. Toronto,
1899. [Rev. John Lanhorn's Records, 1787-1813 - Burials",
pp. 59-63]

QUEBEC GAZETTE, 1775-70

III. REFERENCE WORKS

IV. STUDIES

H.C. BURLEIGH, Forgotten Leaves of Local History. Kingston.
Kingston, 1973.

W.C. CAMPBELL, Annals of Tryon County. New York, 1831.

* WILLIAM CANNIFF, History of the Settlement of Upper Canada
with Special Reference to the Bay Quinte. Toronto, 1869.

E.C. GUILLET, The Valley of the Trent. Toronto, 1957.

W.C. MIKEL, City of Belleville History. Picton, 1943.

ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT, 1905. Toronto, 1905.

* ONTARIO DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, Moir Valley
Conservation Report. Toronto, 1950.

ONTARIO LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION, Annual Report, 1932,
Toronto, 1932. [Biography of John Collins, pp. 105-110]

RICHARD A. PRESTON, Kingston Before the War of 1812. Toronto, 1959.

* JOHN A. SCOTT, Fort Stanwix and Oriskany. Rome, N.Y., 1927.

* W.L. STONE, ed., ~~ORDERLY BOOK OF SIR JOHN JOHNSON~~ Orderly Book of Sir John Johnson during the Oriskany
Campaign, 1776-77. Albany, N.Y., 1882.

V. ARTICLES

* E.A. CRUIKSHANK, "The King's Royal Regiment of New York",
Ontario Historical Society Papers and Records v. XXVII
(Toronto, 1931), pp. 193-323.

ERNEST GREEN, "The Search for Salt in Upper Canada", OHS
Papers and Records, v. XXVI (Toronto, 1930), pp. 406-31.

R.V. ROGERS, "The First Commission of the Peace for the District
of Mecklenburg", OHS ~~PAPEERS AND RECORDS~~ Papers and Records,
v. VIII (Toronto, 1907), pp. 49-78.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

I. MANUSCRIPT SOURCES

CORBY PUBLIC LIBRARY, Belleville.

Canniff Family History by M. & L. Wanamaker

Singleton Family Papers in the Hastings County Historical Society Collection

ONTARIO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS, Toronto.

- * Surveyors Field Notes and Diaries for Messrs. W. Hambley and others who visited the Bay of Quinte area in the 1784-1800 period
- Map Collection

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF CANADA, Ottawa.

Crown Land Records (R.G. 1)

L3 - vol. 494 Petitions for land

L4 - Land Board Minutes and Records

L5 - vol. 34 Heir and Devises Papers

Haldimand Collection

- * B125 - Captain Singleton's Report on the Mohawk Valley Expedition, July 27, 1782

- * B169 - Correspondence regarding the Loyalists

MG23 B23-1 Garrison Order Book, Royal Regiment of New York, 1779-1780

H.II-4 Samuel Sherwood's Day Book

Map Collection, especially:

Collins and Kotte, "Fredericksburgh & Adolphustown"

Kotte, "Thurlow Township" 1787

1784

"Regiments Stationed in the Montreal District, 1760-1870" (Finding Aid 823)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF ONTARIO, Toronto.

- * Canniff Papers - Package 9: Notes Concerning the Early Settlers of Belleville and Prince Edward County

Cartwright Papers

Crown Land Records (R.G. 1)

C-I-4 Vol. 40 Alexander Aitken's Index to Schedule, 1796-98

C-IV Abstract Books for Pittsburgh, Frederickshburgh, Sidney, and Thurlow Townships

Map Collection

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, London. [Material consulted on microfilm at PAC]

War Office Records

- * W.O. 17 British and Provincial Troops Serving in Canada

- * W.O. 28 Correspondence relating to the American Revolution

n





Copy/Copie: 1

Page: THREE

Subject/Sujet:

Contributor/Collaborateur:

(15) PAC, R.C-1,
L5, vol. 34,
Certificate of
Sept. 6, 1707 and
March 7, 1707. See
also MIKEH,
Bainville,
p. 3

the peace for the Mecklenburg District.

The ~~so-called~~ "Hungry Year" of 1788 had disastrous consequences. His customers were unable to make payment and he was obliged to mortgage or sell land. (15) Since he had never claimed the full officer's allowance of 3000 acres, he petitioned the government in August 1789 for 2100 acres in Prince Edward County, directly across from his post. (16)

Before the government could respond, tragedy struck. Early in September he set out by batteau for Kingston with his wife Nancy, their eight month-old son John, and Israel Ferguson, his brother-in-law and trading partner. (17) He planned to obtain trading goods at Kingston, where both men were to appear as defendants in civil court cases. (18)

Enroute, Singleton was taken ill with what seemed to be seasickness. Despite medical treatment by the Tyendinaga Indians and a Kingston physician, "some malignant fever" persisted and he died in his rooms at Fredericksburgh. (19)

On September 23, the same day that a medical certificate was read in the kingston court stating his inability to attend, (20) Singleton was interred by the Rev. John Langhorn. (21)

His untimely death, perhaps a result of the privations of the Hungry Year, meant that the river and location in Thurlow soon came to take on their modern names, although they continued to be known as Singleton's Creek and

Singleton's until the mid-1790's. After 1810 his family moved to Murray Township in neighbouring Northumberland County where John and his children were prominent early settlers. (24)

(18) ONT BUREAU
OF ARCHIVES,
14th Report, 1917,
Records of the
Court of
Common Pleas,
pp 203-4.

(21) ONT BUREAU
OF ARCHIVES,
14th Report,
pp 203-4

(22) OHS,
Papers & Records,
Vol. I, p. 60.

(24) PAO
Courtwright
Papers,
Ezra Stephens
to F.M.H.H., Nov. 23, 1842.

(16) PAC
R.C. 1.3
vol. 444
Aug. 12,
1789.

(17) PAC,
Canniff Papers,
Package 9,
Notation
with name will
Mr. Matthew
Meyers, 1865.

PAC.
(19) Canniff
Papers,
vol. 444.

(20) PAC,
Canniff Papers,
Package 9,
as Canniff's
note on
Capt. Singleton

(23) Surveyor
W. Hambley
went up
Singleton's Creek
on Dec. 27, 1793
ONTARIO LANDS
& FORESTS, Diary
470.





Subject/Sujet:

Contributor/Collaborateur

scouting expedition to the Mohawk Valley. His journal of that moderately successful expedition indicates that he was a man of some education and ability, since he maintained good relations with the Indians, despite some provocations, and obtained cattle for the Oswego garrison. (10)

When hostilities ended he received land in the Cataraqui (Kingston) area, settling in Fredericksburgh Township. (11) He championed the cause of the other Loyalist settlers when it appeared that government rations would be reduced drastically. (12) Initially he was more interested in trade than in acquiring a large landed estate. There is strong evidence to suggest that he had a trading post on the north shore of the Bay of Quinte, near the mouth of the Sagonaska (Moir) River in Thurlow Township, as early as 1785. (13) [Surveyor John Collins recorded that on Wednesday July 27 he had "set out at 6 o'clock from Captain Singletons on the River Saganaskhokan".

Singleton was among the earliest settlers and was the first resident merchant at what is now the community of Belleville. His residence-trading post was a primitive but comfortable log building, described as the "length of 2 logs". (14) He divided his time between his Thurlow trading post and his Fredericksburgh residence. In 1788 Captain Singleton "of Fredericksburgh" was appointed a justice of

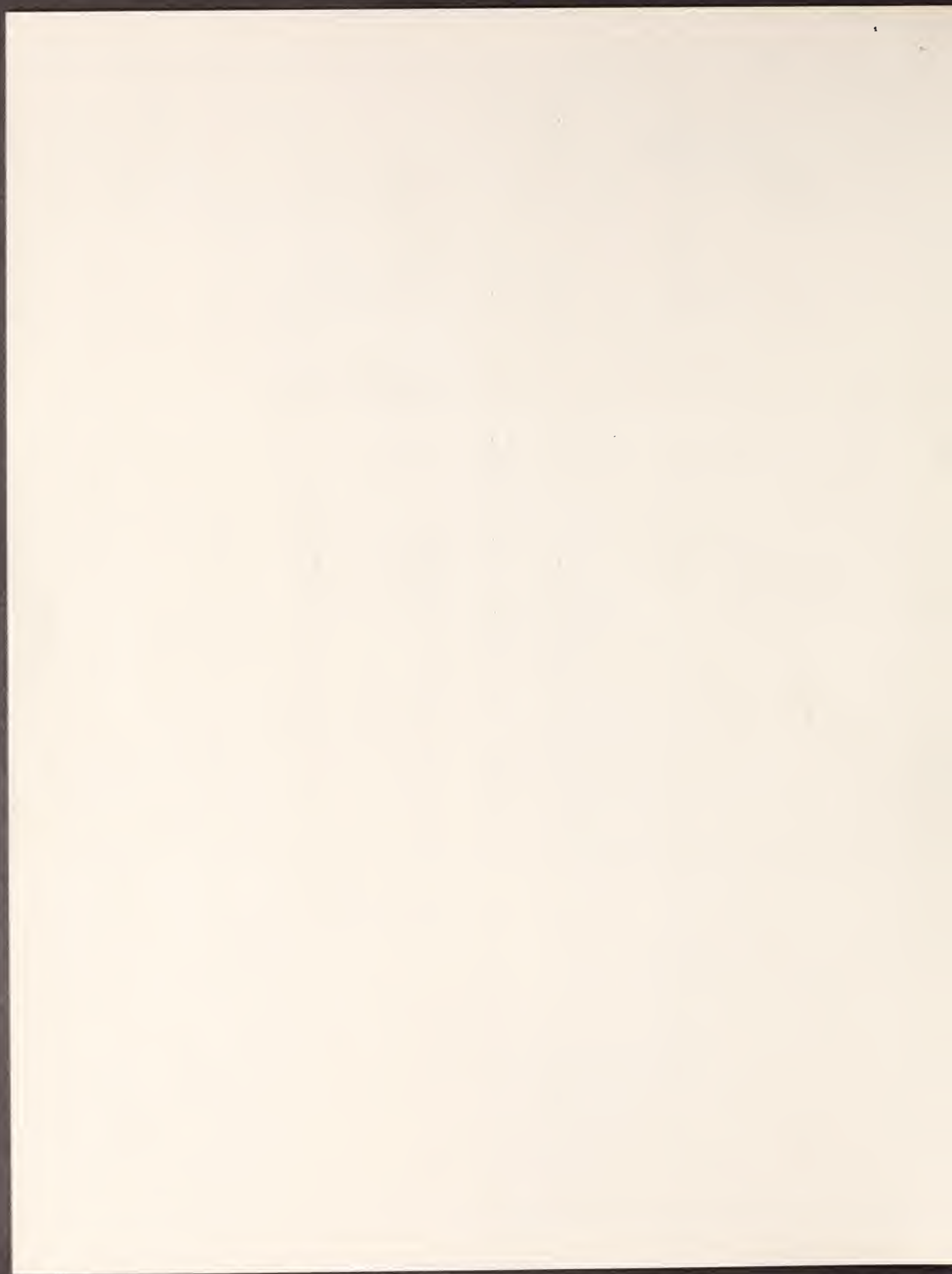
(10) PAC,
Heldimand
Collection,
B-125,
July 27,
1782. Also
quoted in
CPM, HANK,
pp 282-3

(11) PAC
RC 1,
C-IV,
Abstract Books.

(12) PAC,
Heldimand
Collection,
B-169,
pp 3-33
See also The
Quebec Gazette,
January, 1786
for letter by
Singleton and
other thinking
surveyor -
John Collins

(14) PAC,
Cassidy Papers,
Pickings 9,
Note on
interview
with Mrs.
M. H. H.
M. H. H.,
1965.

(13) Ont.
Dept. of
Lands & Forests
Field Notes,
Vol. I, p 231
See also:
O. T. H.
Archaeological
Report 1905,
p 371, for
imagining
interviews to
John Collins,
May 22, 1785.



DB

(1) No data available in list of birth
Country or birth is stated in Return
of Officers of the King's Royal Regiment
of New York, PAC, Heldmann
Paper, B-167, p. 350

Copy/Copies: 1
Page: ONE

Subject/Sujet: GEORGE SINGLETON
Contributor/Collaborateur: E-BELLE

U.E.

SINGLETON, GEORGE, merchant, military officer, Loyalist
settler on the Bay of Quinte, a founder of the present
community of Belleville; b. c.1750 in Ireland, d. Sept.
1787 in Fredericksburgh, Canada. (1)

(2) Information
to DCB
from Dr.
H.C. Burling
of Bath,
Ontario.

A merchant, presumably in New York Province, Singleton
rallied to the British cause early in the American Revolution
and served at the siege of Quebec, 1775-76. (2) In June 1776
he was commissioned a lieutenant in the King's Royal
Regiment of New York, under Sir John Johnson. (3) He served
in that regiment's ill-fated 1777 Mohawk Valley expedition
and was wounded and taken prisoner near Fort Stanwix. (4)

(3) PRO,
W.O. 28
vol. 5, p. 215

Local histories link Singleton with an alleged "act of
shameful cruelty"; he is said to have encouraged his
Indian allies to kill some prisoners. (5) In the spring of
1778 he was allowed to return to Canada. However, he was
to take no part in hostilities until a captured Revolutionary
officer had been exchanged for him. (6) Despite Johnson's
intervention on his behalf, (7) the exchange was delayed and
for two years he remained "on parole" at Montreal. (8)

An excellent
account of the
battle and
subsequent
events, based
on first-hand
reports, is
found in
John A. Scott,
Fort Stanwix
and Onondaga.

Returning to duty he was appointed a captain in the Second
Battalion of the Regiment and was "on command" at Carleton
Island in October, 1780, (9) possibly his introduction to the
Kingston-Bay of Quinte area.

(5) Scott,
Fort Stanwix
p. 197, and
W.L. Stone,
Orderly Book
p. 13. The
accusation
was made by
Dr. Moore
Younglove,
a surgeon
in
Harkness's
Brigade.

In July 1782 he joined Captain Joseph Brant on a

(3) PRO, W.O. 28
vol. 5, p. 5.
John Johnson
to Capt.
Le Ministre,
Sept. 16, 1778.

(4) Ibid.
Johnson
described him
as "an officer
I have the
highest opinion
of". See also EA
CRUESHANK,
The King's
Royal Regiment,
p. 218.

(9) PRO, W.O. 17
Vol. 1574.
Monthly Return
of the K.R.N.R.
1778-80.

(9) Ibid., Return for October, 1780.



SINGLETON

173 Bridge St. E.,
Belleville, Ontario,
November 7, 1974.

Dear Dr. Burling :

Sorry for the delay in answering. School and other duties have been heavy of late.

The Sherwood Day Book is the one you loaned at one time to the Archives for copying, I believe. It is an interesting document and would be well worth having printed, with accompanying notes on the people. I do not know of its (the original's) present location.

I'm returning the Singleton article for your records. One change (suggested by the Waramachew) is the designation of Singleton as U.E. See page 1.

I assume that Singleton must have resided in what is now the U.S.A., but I sometimes wonder if he joined the KRRNY from Montreal directly. (There was another George Singleton at Montreal who died about the time of the war's outbreak.) The note in The Quebec Gazette of Oct-5/75 may refer to him or to our Singleton.

Sincerely,

Gerald E. Baye



his wife, Mary^{and} Canniff was still living with her son John in Brighton in 1857 when Dr Canniff practiced there, that must be one story he did have right. The son John married a Nancy Canniff, a cousin but I'm not sure if it was Abrahams' daughter, but John's son was Abraham Canniff Singleton. He John sold the homestead to John Canniff in 1814 ^(\$1000) and when he got the deed in 1818, he went to a grant he had a Brighton & settled. There is a Singleton St. on the way out of Brighton but no one seems to know why. In the Directory of 1857, he is listed with his son in the lumber mill, with a saw mill. He was also first Post Master and helped build the first church. I have a letter from him in the Archives, to the P.R. Super. in Belleville giving his prices for wood to be cut to length and to be picked up by the wood burning engine at Brighton station. I have also seen the paper signed by Margaret Canniff Singleton, giving up any dower rights she may claim to her brother Jonas Canniff, just after the death of their father James. ^(In Archives) Dr Canniff mentions the Richard Canniff as the first here but a young man, descendent of Richard and trying to trace the rest of the family had all this facts and figures. Jonas Canniff Jr in U.S.A. was fined because three of his sons joined the rebels. John James and Richard. When Singleton died Richard came and helped his cousin Margaret with the farm. He decided to return and take over the old Jonass estate in America & Abraham who had been young came & stayed until John Jr bought it. In his will ~~he gave part of his land~~ he stated that what he left his heirs did not include the farm (on the 3rd) which he had given to Abraham, his brother for life. These are facts I have checked. My question - Where did the Singletons go when they left Brighton? Any ideas? Brighton histories dont give them much credit

3- The family of Sgt. John & Mrs Margaret ^{Simpson} from.

Here, too, the story has always been wrong.

Sgt John came with the British forces to the town and brought out his wife & family to settle here afterwards. Why here in Belleville - haven't yet traced. But she seems to have bought the house that Asa Wallbridge an old bachelor, had built & started an inn. The Sgt. had three years to serve before he could be retired on 1/2 pay & thus he did. She made a success of it and he let her run it. In 1812 after a small fire and realizing it was too small, they crossed the street and built the house that still stands there today - again built by Asa Wallbridge & almost the mate of the one built by Anson Hayden (at what is now Cornville) on land he bought from John Caniff. By 1824, there being now several Inns in Belleville & the bridge moved to where it is now, & hard times, they lost the Inn. Asa Wallbridge had died and left everything, he had to his nephew William Wallbridge & he claimed it back for the mortgage. Benj. Way, the ~~son-in-law~~ ^{husband} of Mrs Simpson's daughter, looked after the details. William Wallbridge kept it as an Inn for a while then made it into a private dwelling, inherited by his son Lewis. In the meantime the three Simpsons sons left for St Catherine's which was doing a good business in ship building. One - named Meckstalon eventually went to California & was never heard of again. James and Charles (I think) both went into the Methodist Ministry. Sgt & Mrs Simpson went to live in Cambridge where the Sgt became blind & died. He was buried at Doved. The Way son-in-law who had settled at Doved moved the old "Grandma Simpson" out to live with him and they are both buried in the

4
old Anglican Church yard somewhere. Ed Toay,
an old friend (and crowding 80) still
refers to her as Grandma Simpson &
remembers his grandfather's stories. He was
always angry at the "widow Simpson" bit
but never said anything. This is how I have
Mrs Simpson's table, platter & fruitings.

Ed. says that until she died she ruled
the family, a small sharp bird like woman.
That I can believe. She handled Belleville
in her early days. She made one rule that
these two ministers' sons must always
come home for Christmas - which they did.
When she died, the habit stopped & they lost track
of them. Ever hear of them? Know anything
about the two Rev. Simpson's?

We have many enquiries for people looking
for ancestors. In putting looking for these
to get Belleville's own history straight &
give credit to others besides John H. Meyers
who had something to do with our beginning.
Any help will be appreciated - as will
suggestions. Mr. Earl Van Blaricom of
Kelowna tells me you were able to
straighten him out. He is sending our
Archives all his life time of family records.
How interrelated all these Townships people
were in the beginning and how well
they knew each other I begin to feel that
when a new museum starts, we had
better keep the building where we are
and create a separate Archives because
the Museum won't be big enough for
both. Have you decided what you will
do with the wealth of information you have?
Don't think me impertinent in asking but I
just ask the Lord to let me live to make
our Hastings Archives come true and you
can realize I'm interested.

Best wishes to you & Mrs. Burleigh
Hoping to hear soon
Mrs. Mary G. Plimpton

Corkville, Ont.
Jan 12/00

Dear Dr. Burleigh -

I started to write you a letter full of questions away back in ~~Oct~~ Nov. but somehow got side-tracked to the Hospital for seven weeks. I've been home for two and am going to be doing part time research until Feb. when I report to Toronto for possible heart surgery. So I thought I better ask for help in some of my particular areas of interest regarding our earliest settlers.

1- Capt John M^r Intosh.

I have discovered that though he drowned in 1815, in 1812 his brother Donald had been a Lieut under him in 1812. ^{in the Intosh family} This Donald started the N.W. Fur Co a little later. The name disappeared which has confounded everybody but by chance I have a copy (the original is not in the Registry Office) in our old will books of the will of one "Jane ^{M^r Intosh} England, widow of William England". Mrs Martha ^{M^r Intosh} Intosh widow of John, had been Martha Ostrom & after 1818 sometime married John M^r Lennan (formerly of Williamstown!) Jane ^{the only child of Capt M^r Intosh} Lennan had no children brought up Donald, a son of William M^r L of Williamstown and left all the family papers ~~to~~ to him. She also left the land and money to start the Catholic school in Belleville (under the Sisters of Loretto on John St.) By (1854) the time she died her "Cousin Donald M^r Intosh" was still alive in Montreal as were two M^r Intosh cousins, both lawyers in Montreal. I quite inadvertently found out that there was only one M^r Lennan left in Williamstown an old lady about 90, very bright, who still owned all the family possessions. Know anything more about it?

(I wrote to her but got no answer)

2- Capt George Singleton our first settler.

I have found the actual date he was turned in Ernestboron in 1789, and as

She seems to have been a real woman

